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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Modern Language Association of America

The Eighth Annual Convention of the MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA was held in the Chapel of Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn., December 29, 30 and 31, 1890. On Monday evening, Dec. 29, the **First Session** was called to order by the Vice-President, Prof. ALCÉE FORTIER, of Tulane University, La., who said :—

The members of the MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION will now come to order and enter upon the proceedings of its Eighth Annual Convention. I have the honor of introducing to you Dr. LANDON C. GARLAND, Chancellor of Vanderbilt University, who will give us an address of welcome.

President FORTIER, in response to Dr. GARLAND's remarks said :—

In the name of the Association, I desire to thank Dr. GARLAND for his interesting address, and for the kind greeting which he has extended to us. We have no doubt that in this hospitable southern city we shall be cordially received, and that our short stay here will be both pleasant and profitable. It is a matter of regret to every member of the Association that our honored President, and First Vice-President are unable to be with us this evening. In their absence, the duties of presiding officer devolve upon me. I am certain that they will be very easy to perform, for I know that we are all earnest in our work and that our efforts tend to the same end—the elevation of modern languages in the curriculum of every school and college in this country to the rank to which they are entitled. I believe that our Association has been a most important factor in the great progress made in the last few years in the teaching of the modern languages in America. Let us be encouraged to continue our work with still greater energy and perseverance, and I have no doubt that our efforts will be crowned with still better success. I

hear that Prof. W. R. GARRETT, President of the National Educational Association is with us, and we should be glad to hear a few words from him.

Professor GARRETT said:—

Mr. President:—I did not expect to be called upon to address your Association, and have no thoughts arranged to present to you; yet, as a citizen of Nashville, and as a teacher, I cannot refrain from expressing to you the great pleasure which it gives our people to welcome you to our midst. The Chancellor of Vanderbilt University has left but little to be said in expressing the cordial sentiments of our educators and our people.

I am glad he alluded to the important educational meetings which have been held in Nashville during the past two years, beginning with the meeting of the National Educational Association. These meetings have all given instruction and pleasure to our educators and our citizens, and have led us to look forward to such meetings with lively anticipations.

I am especially called on to express to you the sentiments of the National Educational Association. I need not say our sentiments are fraternal. The National Educational Association has a great mission to perform. It is the great medium for assimilating and formulating the educational sentiment of this continent. I believe it is the largest and best organized body in the world for conducting summer excursions. Beginning in the Northeast, on the Atlantic coast, its excursions have crossed the Continent to San Francisco on the Pacific, have extended all along the Northern border, and have reached Atlanta and Nashville to the South. The next meeting, which is the first International meeting, will be held at Toronto, Canada. I have alluded to this excursion feature, not for the purpose of enlarging on the great benefit which accrues to education by affording to those who conduct it that widening of the mental vision which comes from travel and acquaintance with the world. Such an Association makes educators from all parts of the Union feel, in the eloquent words which Chancellor GARLAND has just uttered, "that we are brothers from one end of this land to the other." If there be a body of men who should love the whole country, it is a body which has found a welcome in every portion of the United States.

The members of the National Educational Association have warm hearts for their brethren. We perform a general work, while such Associations as yours work in special lines. In the ten departments of the National Association much valuable special work is done, but we cannot reach the special work of all departments of education. We look with fraternal interest on such work as yours.

Although I can do but little to aid you in the technical work of your meeting, yet I sympathize heartily with your efforts to extend the sphere and to improve the methods of modern language training, and I wish you much success in your labors.

Chancellor GARLAND has told you what progress has been made in the teaching of modern languages in the universities and schools of Nashville. In addition to the general good which your meeting will accomplish, your visit will confer a local benefit upon the "Athens of the South" by the stimulus it will give to the teaching of modern languages. We are, also, gainers in the opportunity it affords us to meet in social intercourse so many distinguished educators from all parts of the country.

Professor FORTIER said:—

We are greatly indebted to Professor GARRETT for his suggestive and cordial remarks and would now like to hear from our Secretary, Prof. A. M. ELLIOTT of the Johns Hopkins University.

Professor ELLIOTT said:—

Mr. President and members of the MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION: I cannot tell you with what feelings of rejoicing I have come here for the first meeting of the MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION in the South. The cordial welcome which has been extended us by the Chancellor of this University calls to my mind feelings that I entertained this morning on arriving at your station. I left Baltimore on Saturday in a snow storm. We had snow and ice and sleet and nothing but snow and ice and sleet for the whole journey, until we got this side Louisville. On arriving at your station, this beautiful morning, which to us in the North or in the middle states and in Baltimore would seem a May morning, I was almost made to feel as though I had come into a sort of antechamber of *il Paradiso*, as DANTE might have called it. I have both general and special reasons for desiring to come to Nashville for this meeting of the MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION. The cause which we represent this evening is one that is dear to the hearts of many of us in this country, and the idea of united effort in the support of it was suggested not that we might oppose anything, but that we might develop an important factor of our literary culture which would otherwise have remained but imperfectly developed; that we might be led to a better appreciation of the literature, of the thoughts and feelings of our own race and people, of the peoples who live in our own time with all our complex modern civilization.

In looking back at the history of Tennessee, I remember that your state was formerly a part of North Carolina, or at least that the early inhabitants of your state came from there. I am a North Carolinian by birth and, therefore, recalling something of the early history of your state, I esteem it a great pleasure from this general point of view to attend a meeting within the limits of your Commonwealth.

While at dinner last Sunday, I told a gentleman from East Tennessee that I was intending to go in a few days to Nashville. He said:—

"I congratulate you; you are going to one of the richest countries on the face of the globe—one of the richest in mineral wealth and material resources, in coal and iron, which are the two great sources of our wealth to-day."

I happened to meet recently on the street another friend whom I told that I was going soon to your city. He exclaimed:—"I am delighted to hear it, you are going to the land of chivalry, the home of bluegrass and 'Iroquois,'"—and I assure you that it was a great pleasure to me last evening in the train to be informed by a gentleman, native of Lexington, Ky., as to the "lay of the land" through which I was passing, of which I had heard so much but had known, personally, nothing. These are general considerations that have made me desire to come to the South, but in addition to these there are special and personal reasons which have influenced me. I was told this afternoon by one of the professors of this institution that when he came here a few years ago, modern languages were represented by one professor and that now they are taught by five. This fact is a source of rejoicing to me. A source of further rejoicing is that, standing beside this seat of learning, in the work which it has undertaken in modern languages, is the institution which I represent here this evening and which was opened only a year, I think, after the inauguration-ceremonies of Vanderbilt University—Johns Hopkins University at Baltimore.

Two years ago we held a meeting in Cincinnati which was attended by a gentleman whom, above all others, I desired to meet and whose hand I desired to grasp. He was one who used to tread these places, whose voice used to be heard in this Hall. I shall never forget the expressions of great interest and sympathy, the constant encouragement that, through him, came to me in the beginning of our reform work, from Vanderbilt University. I shall never forget my meeting in Cincinnati with this noble character who, from the outset, urged on the movement for better things and did all in his power by writing, and in every other possible way, to help forward the cause of reform in the modern languages. I shall ever remember his stirring address, his earnest appeal, his searching criticism of our secondary education before that convention in Cincinnati. I refer of course to the lamented CASIMIR ZDANOWICZ, one of the most self-sacrificing, one of the noblest men that I have ever known.

I have also in my mind the remembrance of another gentleman, formerly of Vanderbilt University, who also was no less earnest and who is still no less jealous of our interests, and zealous in pushing forward the good work which we have come here to discuss, in elevating scholarship, in urging constancy, in pleading patience—a man whose name is a household word with you and who was among the first to lay the foundation of modern language work here in your institution. I refer, as you understand, to Professor EDW. S. JOYNES, now one of our members from the University of South Carolina, whose example has been a shining light through the whole of the incipient period of

our work, who has ever been faithful in attendance on our annual conventions, and whose voice on all occasions has been heard for the high position which the modern languages should hold in our nineteenth century civilization.

These, ladies and gentlemen, are personal considerations which led me to desire to visit your city. I feel that it is a special privilege to be among you and, judging from the hearty welcome that has already been extended to us, I feel sure that many of us will return north with tenderest memories of the hospitality and good fellowship found in this Eldorado, this "Land of the Sun."

President FORTIER said:—

Prof. ELLIOTT alluded to the snow and ice. There is a gentleman here who knows something about the snow and ice of the Bay State and we would be glad to hear from Prof. A. N. VAN DAELL, of the Mass. Institute of Technology.

Professor VAN DAELL said:—

I don't know that I have any special right to be called on to represent Massachusetts or its snow and ice. I have been a kind of rolling stone and alas! have not gathered much moss. I began my educational career in the South. Prof. ELLIOTT called this the anti-chamber to paradise. I am tempted to give it a better name. I spent the first year of my married life in Kentucky and am strongly tempted to call it paradise itself.

I have been connected with Mass. institutions only for a small number of years. I belonged at first to the public schools in the city of Boston and perhaps it may interest you to hear something about the study of modern languages there. The city of Boston has eight high schools, of which six are practically used for co-education. In the two Latin Schools and the two central English schools, those for boys and girls are separate. Each one of those central High Schools contains about a thousand pupils. The main object of the two Latin Schools, is the preparation of candidates for college and university. During the time I was Director of modern languages in these institutions, there were in these High Schools of Boston twenty-five hundred pupils studying French and German, under the instruction of thirty-four assistant teachers, having at their head a Director of modern languages. The present incumbent, Prof. CHARLES H. GRANDGENT, is not here this evening, but I hope he will be with us tomorrow. A course of four years is provided in every one of these schools, the children taking either French or German. I must say, perhaps to my heart's content, that about two thousand were studying French and only five hundred German, and even to maintain that rate of five hundred I had to use my official authority (Laughter). I have now for two years been connected with the Mass. Institute of Technology. There, the study of modern languages is not cultivated for its own

sake, except in a more limited course. Our main object is to teach simply the fluent reading of French and German; and generally our pupils are able, after a short course of two years, to read fluently and easily whatever books are necessary in the languages for their specialties. We have a more advanced course for both French and German which is practically a four years course and which treats the languages more thoroughly. We have also courses in Spanish and Italian, but I am sorry to say that the Spanish courses are not valued as they ought to be. It is hard to find pupils for the courses in Spanish and Italian,—this circumstance is to be wondered at and I think to be regretted. I hope that the young men will soon understand that there is a great interest at stake here and that the study of Spanish will be developed in the Institute of Technology, where we have about a thousand pupils and a faculty of nearly one hundred, including some sixty instructors, and more than thirty professors, associate and assistant professors.

I don't know that I have anything more to say, except to express my joy in seeing once more this pleasant southern country which for me has many of most delightful recollections. (Laughter and applause).

President FORTIER said:—

I have often been told that Boston is the Paris of America. We in Louisiana apply that term to New Orleans, but after the statement of Prof. VAN DAELL, I will admit that Boston has some claims to be considered the Paris of America. The mention of Massachusetts recalls the name of DANIEL WEBSTER. Immediately the name of CALHOUN occurs to us. I think there is a professor here from the state of CALHOUN, and we should like to have a few remarks from Prof. F. C. WOODWARD of the University of South Carolina.

Professor F. C. WOODWARD made the following remarks:—

I am exceedingly glad to be here. I have longed to come to this institution of which I have heard a great deal. I wanted to see its plant, its men, its apparatus. I wanted to see this University which, I might say, was the first bridge flung across the bloody war chasm between the two sections of our country. I wanted to see what seems to me about to be the leading institution, certainly one of the leading institutions, of the South—an institution made possible by the patriotic munificence of its founder, made eminently successful by the admirable work of admirable men, guided by the able hand of its first president of the Board of Trustees; an institution which I do not overrate, I think, when I say that its forward march will set the time and the step of higher education in the South. There are other considerations which have led me to desire to attend the meeting of the Association.

HORACE says—and if I do not get the Latin right Prof. KIRKLAND

will please put me right—*Dulce est desipere in loco*, which being freely translated means, that it is a pleasant thing to enjoy one's self in season. I consider that the social features of this Association are very profitable. The touch of the hand and the social communion help me more than the learned papers and the discussions that accompany them. If education is two thirds of life, the personal element is two thirds in teaching, and if it is good for the boy, it is better for the teacher to touch hands and brains as we are permitted here to do. From this meeting I shall endeavor to get more perfect realization of old ideas and some inoculation of new ideas to carry back to the land of CALHOUN. If I may speak for the state of South Carolina, I may say to Vanderbilt and the MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION that as far as in us lies we are striving to keep our part of the educational line dressed.

The Association then adjourned to meet at 9.30 A. M. on the following day.

The **Second Session** was called to order at 9.30, A. M., Dec. 30, by Acting President ALCÉE FORTIER.

Prof. A. MARSHALL ELLIOTT, Secretary of the Association, submitted his report which was adopted. The report was as follows:

The Seventh Annual Convention of the MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA was held in Sever Hall, Harvard University, on December 26, 27 and 28, 1889.

At the **first session** (Dec. 26) President CHARLES W. ELIOT, of Harvard University, gave an address of welcome which was followed with an address by JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL, President of the Association. After this, the members of the Association attended a reception at the house of Pres. ELIOT, on the University campus.

At the opening of the **second session** on Dec. 27, a brief report of the proceedings at the Cincinnati Convention was presented by the Secretary, and this was followed by a succinct statement of the accounts of the Association by the Treasurer, Dr. HENRY ALFRED TODD (Johns Hopkins Univ.). Committees were then appointed as follows:

1. To suggest names of officers for the ensuing year. Prof. EDW. S. JOYNES, Univ. of South Carolina, Chairman.
2. On place on meeting in 1890. Prof. H. C. G. BRANDT, Chairmah.
3. To audit the Treasurer's Report. Prof. EDW. S. SHELDON, Chairman.
4. To offer Resolutions commemorative of the death of Prof. CASIMIR ZDANOWICZ. Prof. SYLVESTER PRIMER, Chairman.

After a few remarks by the Secretary on the *Publications* and membership of the Association, the Convention proceeded to the reading of papers which were presented at various sessions, as follows:

1. The Relation of Shakespeare to 'The Taming of the Shrew.'
Professor A. H. TOLMAN, *Ripon College, Wisconsin.*

2. A Forerunner of Bunyan in the Twelfth Century.
Professor KUNO FRANCKE, *Harvard University, Mass.*
3. Of the Use of the Negation by Chaucer, with particular Reference to *ne (non)*.
Professor CHARLES W. KENT, *University of Tenn., Knoxville.*
4. William Thornton, a Phonetic Pioneer.
Professor C. B. WRIGHT, *Middlebury College, Vermont.*
5. Scandinavian Lexicography.
Dr. DANIEL KILHAM DODGE, *Columbia College, N. Y.*
6. Pronunciation of Fredericksburg, Virginia.
Dr. SYLVESTER PRIMER, *Providence, R. I.*
7. The Saga of Walter of Aquitaine.
Dr. M. D. LEARNED, *Johns Hopkins University, Md.*
8. Russian Animal Folk-Lore compared with the Mediæval Animal Epics of the West.
Professor ADOLPH GERBER, *Earlham College, Ind.*
9. Address by Professor A. MELVILLE BELL, President of the Phonetic Section.
10. Vowel Measurements.
Professor CHARLES H. GRANDGENT, *Boston, Mass.*
11. Influence of the Weakness of Accent-stress on Phonetic Change in French.
Dr. PHILIPPE B. MARCOU, *Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor.*
12. Dialect Peculiarities in the Development of *l mouillé* in Old French.
Professor JOHN E. MATZKE, *Bowdoin College, Maine.*
13. Reading in Modern Language Study.
Professor EDW. S. JOYNES, *Univ. of South Carolina, Columbia.*
14. Requirements in German and French for Admission to College.—A Discussion.
Professor CHARLES E. FAY, *Tufts College, Mass.*

Paper presented for Publication :

- A Tyrolese Passion-play of the Middle Ages.
Professor H. SCHMIDT-WARTENBERG, *Univ. of Deseret, Utah.*

The Secretary then made the following remarks :—

The membership of the Association for 1890 was about three hundred ; there have been three regular issues of the *Publications* of the Association, together with one supplement, covering three hundred and fifty pages ; the *Proceedings* amounting also to about one hundred pages have been published ; thus making, in all, of published matter nearly four hundred and fifty pages. The fourth and last issue of the *Publications* for this year (1890) will cover one hundred and nine pages.

At the conclusion of the report President FORTIER said : —

The report is certainly most gratifying and encouraging, not only in its statement of the number of pages which have been printed, but in its indication of the great progress which has been made by the Society in its publications.

Dr. HENRY A. TODD, Treasurer, submitted his report for the preceding year which was as follows :

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

Cash on hand January 1, 1890.....	\$ 68.92
Receipts for 1890.....	643.74
	<hr/>
Total.....	712.66
Expenditures.....	641.77
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Balance on hand January 1, 1891.....	\$ 70.89

The report was received.

The President then announced the following committees:—

1. On the nomination of officers: Profs. WM. M. BASKERVILL (Vanderbilt), SCHMIDT-WARTENBERG (Univ. of South Dakota), E. S. SHELDON (Harvard), H. A. TODD (Johns Hopkins), JOSEPH A. FONTAINE (Univ. of Miss.), J. D. BRUCE (Centre College), F. R. BUTLER (Woman's College, Balto.);
2. To examine Treasurer's report: Profs. JOHN P. FRUIT (Bethel College), WALLER DEERING (Vanderbilt);
3. To propose place for holding Convention of 1891: Profs. CHARLES H. GRANDGENT (Boston), R. SHARP (Tulane), ADOLPH GERBER (Earlham College);
4. To present resolutions on the deaths of Professors JOHN G. R. McELROY and C. K. NELSON: Profs. EDW. S. JOYNES (Univ. of S. Carolina), HUGO A. RENNERT (Univ. of Penn.) and CLARENCE C. FREEMAN (S. W. University, Tenn.).

Professor JNO. PHELPS FRUIT (Bethel College) moved that the reading of papers be restricted to thirty minutes, and that the opening discussions be limited to ten minutes and subsequent discussions to five minutes each. The motion was carried.

Reading of papers was then taken up and in the absence of Prest. HENRY E. SHEPHERD (College of Charleston), a paper prepared by him on

I. *Some Phases of Tennyson's In "Memoriam"**

was read by Prof. FRUIT, who afterwards opened the discussion as follows:—

So sure am I that TENNYSON's art instincts are perfect and that he does everywhere and at all times the fitting thing, that I am ready to take up cudgels against any one who says his art is rough and unnatural. I agree with the paper in saying this is the supreme achieve-

*For the published papers, see the *Publications* of the MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION for 1891.